
Key Christian Passages: 1 Corinthians 10:13

How Do I Face Temptation?

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God [is] faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear [it]. (1 Cor 10:13)

Meanings of the Word “Temptation”:

- **A test** – Something God has me go through to show me where I am at, to measure by action my obedience, to grow me.
- **A trial** – A challenging, burdensome, or difficult circumstance.
- **A temptation** – A situation where we are enticed to sin.

The “temptation” circumstance that I face can be 1 of these, 2 of these, or all of these. Probably most circumstances have all 3 elements. (Think about it.) The principles given in the passage apply to all three.

Possible Tests, Trials, and Temptations:

- Peer pressure
- Physical sickness or pain
- Personal trouble or tragedy
- Points of obedience that don’t make sense (Abe)
- Perilous times
- Persecution
- Promptings of sinful pleasure, dishonest gain, or rebellion against authority (God’s or man’s)

Principle #1: Others Have Faced What I Am Facing

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man;

Each test/trial/temptation is common to humanity (people).

I am not in a unique situation. Others have faced the same test, trial, or temptation (I am not the only one...). I am not in a “special circumstance” where God’s principles do not apply or will not work for me.

Promise: God is faithful

- *To keep His promises* – Let us hold fast the confession of [our] hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. (Heb 10:23)
- *To enable me to obey* – He who calls you [is] faithful, who also will do [it]. (1 Thes 5:24)

- *To help me to mature* – I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will also confirm you to the end, [that you may be] blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God [is] faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Cor 1:4-9)
- *To make my suffering count* – Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls [to Him] in doing good, as to a faithful Creator. (1 Pet 4:19)
- *To forgive my sins as I confess them* – If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)
- *To ground me and to guard me* – But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard [you] from the evil one. (2 Thes 3:3)
- *To remain faithful to Himself* – If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself. (2 Tim 2:13)
- *Further...*

Principle #2: God Will Not Allow More Than I Can Handle

who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able,

God will not allow me to be faced with any test, trial, or temptation beyond your ability to pass the test, pass through the trial, or pass by the temptation.

Principle #3: God Will Always Make a Way Out or Through

but with the temptation will also make the way of escape,

God will always provide with every test, trial, or temptation a way through or way out. This does not mean missing difficulty. It means that God has always provided a way for me to obey, stand strong, or refuse as required by His Word. It may mean (and often has) strength to die without compromise.

Principle #4: God Will Help Me Out of or Through Each Temptation

that you may be able to bear [it].

By always providing for me a way out or through each test, trial, or temptation, God will always give me the ability to obey His Word, to:

- pass the test,
- pass through the trial, or
- pass by the temptation.